

Bristol Oct. 31st 1849

My dear Mr. May.

I have first to acknowledge your most recent letter of Sep. 7th in answer to mine of July 10th from Alderney, & then 2 others thro' private hand & Chapman's, one dated June 5th & the other July 3rd with Judge Fay's review of the Mexican War, & other acceptable publications for all of which I feel greatly obliged. I returned from Alderney about the last day of August, after escorting my daughter, Miss Ames, & the 2 Miss Parkeses, (I give names with which you may be familiar, tho' not knowing the individuals) to Guernsey, Jersey & ~~South~~ ^{South} and my daughter came home on the 6th of this month much improved in health.

Ms. A. 1. 10 v. 14, p. 5
Mrs. Follen, her son & Miss Cabot came to Bristol on Tuesday the 25th of Sept. & remained at Miss Carpenter's until the following Monday. I was able to see them several times which is different from my fate on all occasions, as my time is often much bespoken. When I first saw Mrs.

F. I was presiding at a large public Meeting (the Western Unitarian Society) which she came to, & with which she was pleased. I went with them also to Mr. Ames's handsome

Mansions & fine grounds, & to a beautiful
private garden adjoining with all of which
they seemed delighted. On the day of their
departure, Miss Kate Parker, who ~~was~~ had
come to Bristol, & I went with Mrs. Fuller
to the Blind Asylum, & spent with the de-
light of the girls to "see", & to talk to one
of the ladies who had actually sold their
basket-work at Boston. Mrs. F. spoke
most pleasantly to them, & left a strong
impression on them. Her visit was a
very agreeable one to us; to her & her plea-
sant sensible sister, I fear a fatiguing one.

Mrs. Fuller & Mrs. Chapman are both
take your view of the French Dayless: I
have ^{sent} ~~received~~ an order for all the copies
(between 5 & 600) to be delivered to Mrs.
C. to be employed at her discretion, &
also a balance of £2.10.0 remaining
from the money raised for the publication.
I am quite satisfied of the correct judgment
of my American friends in the arrange-
ments that will be made, tho' still unable
to repress a prejudice, that they may be
"throwing pearls before swine." My
charitable feelings towards the French are
in no respect on the increase, not even

now, when their fickle ~~schemes~~ politics
are fast varying towards legitimacy: Ni-
cholas of Russia would be their best Ruler.
Nothg. I have any love for him or his
Austrian allies: have you not shuddered
at the Hungarian execution? Even Red
Republicanism has threatened nothing
equal to these Monarchical murders.

I should have liked to see Mr. J. F. Clark
your last ^{letter} I sent to Mr. Lator & to Dr. Butler.
Dr. B. has written a note in reply which I
think you must see if I have room for it.
I doubt if he would make any allowance
for slave holders; but he stands up against
the abuse of those who do not see their call
to become active abolitionists. Father
Matthew has thoroughly disgraced himself.
Mr. Webb is not at all surprised at his course.
The card has been a good one for the Abol.
& Garrison has not failed to play it
well. Mr. G.'s 4th letter to Fr. M. is excellent.
I have been sadly behind hand in Anti
Slavery Care. About 20 A. S. papers were waiting
my return from Alderney, some still
unopened. Mrs. Follen seems confident
that R. Carpenter will come back with a
much sympathy with the Abolists.

really
There was something supremely ridiculous
in Joseph Barker's offering to represent the
people of Leeds in Parliament, & argued an
amount of sanity which even those who
well knew this weakness of his, did not
think him capable of. It is not likely
you should understand the peculiar pos-
sibility of individuals in English society.
It was sufficiently condemnatory of J.B.
that he asked in opposition to the opinion
of his wisest & best friends. I suppose any
man might be well suited to take
share in, & guide the councils of a
rural parish, & yet be a very unfit
member of Congress. Mr. Fox has long
been before the public as an orator in
great movements. I never heard of his
offering himself as a Member of Parlia-
ment: he was no doubt solicited to be
put in nomination there.

In reading over your last letter, I must
especially, & again, thank you for its varied
valuable contents. You are pleased to
compliment my correspondence: to me
my letters appear very common - please
filled with trifling matter.

2nd) As a matter almost of business, I must
give you notice of a coming present to the
Boston Bazaar, — one that has been for months
in preparation & has enlisted the services
of numerous friends of the Anti-Sl. & of the
A.S. cause. My sister-in-law Mrs. Michell

(remembered I should think for some most
tasteful imitations of our field flowers she
made in wood, & sent to you in 1845)

has devised & executed a beautiful model
of the May-Day pastimes, (a may-pole
& country fair,) observed in the rural dis-
tricts of Somersetshire & some other Eng-
lish counties. It is on a board 19

by 26 inches, which is painted to represent

a village Green. There are about 150
each one is in character — rustic, gentry, &c., &c., &c.
figures, made chiefly of bread, and the fair
articles with which the booths are stocked,
are of the most delicate workman and art, &
require a hand magnifying-glass to be
seen well. Many friends here regret it

should leave England, but Mrs. M. is firm
to her purpose. Its value I pretend not to
estimate. £20 would not pay for the la-

bour that has been expended on it. I sup-
pose you will make a sort of show of it as
is often done at ^{our} Bazaars, a few sums being

charged for "admission." But this is no business
of mine. It will I think require a glass
frame to be made, for it to stand upon. be
covered with. Mrs M. is now at my house
& with the assistance of my daughter is
busy in placing the figures &c on the
board. We thank her for its power of bearing
carriage. The surface of the village Green
is made with cork, & the model will be
on springs. My fears are lest a mouse
should get to it, or a rat, & devour the

famincuous composition. Numerous &
characteristic as the figures are, you could hold them all in 2 hands.

Mrs. Michell has received so much
assistance from Miss Ames, (daughter of
Mr. & Mrs. Ames of Cedar House, whom Mrs. Follen^{saw}
& who went with us to Alderney) that
her name will be associated with Mrs.
Michell's as one of the donors of this elegant
present, — for such I am sure you will
allow me to style it when you have seen
it. It is to go by a steamer, — I suppose
next Saturday week, & will be addressed
to your father's care.

Will you tell Mr. Coffin that I sent his coat
of arms to the Carverman he mentioned, but
have heard nothing from him. I have en-
quired of a Mr. Walter Coffin a friend of mine
(a great nephew of the eminent Dr. Price

the Culver & friend of Dr. Priestley) who says the arms are the same as his, the crosses denoting Crusaders.

Mr. Follen intimated to me, tho' rather confidentially, that the Miss Griffiths did not conduct themselves with all the discretion & propriety that would be expected from English ladies: I have never seen either of them, but should ~~not~~ doubt if they would afford good samples of the well-bred gentlewomen.

I am sorry not to have seen any of the friends mentioned in your letter of July 3^d. Rev^d. Joseph Allen, Mr. Clarke, or Mr. Fred. Frothingham.

I thought part of the article upon "Narratives of fugitive Slaves" in the Christⁿ. Examiner, worthy of a place in the "Refuge of oppression" & I think Mr. G. gibetted it there. The article "Jesus & Jesus," much interested me. If all the "infidels" in the world were such as Mr. Garrison, we should at least have a christian world, if not a theological one. I was pleased with an Article on Amⁿ.

slavery in a little Massachusetts Rev.

I hope our boy despatched 2 or 3 weeks
since has arrived safely? I was very busy
when it went, & did not send any public
to you which I hoped to do. My daughter
inclosed a toy for your little ones. There
is also a strong appeal from the Mass G.
support to the Rochester Bazaar, & in
of the W. Hor. I have talked with
Follen on this matter, & she only confirms
views I formerly expressed to you.

I have just sent your last letter
now written in answer to it, - a poor
return I fully feel, - to Mr. Webb, to
I know it will be a great treat. He is
truly honest man, and has more
power & good sound sense than most
Irishmen it is my fortune to meet with.
Our brethren of the "Liberator" have warm
hearts, but not always cool or clear heads.

My daughter joins me in kind regards
to yourself & family, & I am, my dear
Sincerely Yours,

J. B. L. Otis

^{interest}
We are using much to get the Captains of the Liverpool
& Bristol, & of the American Steamers to take every
of the model, for it to be conveyed by hand from one
steamer to the other. I hope some friend at Boston will
thus take charge of it. It will be addressed to your father
& will go I believe next Sat? fortnight - Make any use for